

## STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DARRELL V. MCGRAW, JR. CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION 1-800-368-8808 or 304-558-8986

## Press Release

February 7, 2002

65 Local Poison Centers Accessible through National Toll-Free Number

The American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC) today launched a nationwide public awareness campaign to promote 1-800-222-1222, a new lifesaving toll-free hotline that connects Americans to poison treatment and prevention experts 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The new hotline allows someone to call from anywhere in the United States and automatically be connected to specially trained nurses, pharmacists and doctors at the closest local poison center. These poison experts will respond to poison emergencies and answer poison-related questions about medicines, household products and other potentially dangerous substances.

Prior to the launch of 1-800-222-1222, each local poison center was accessible only through local or state-wide numbers. While these numbers will continue to operate, the AAPCC and local poison centers are encouraging Americans to learn and remember the new national hotline, so they can easily access it, anytime and anywhere in the United States. The service is free.

For more information go to www.1-800-222-1222.info

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